



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
SEQUOIA & KINGS CANYON NATIONAL PARKS
47050 GENERALS HWY
THREE RIVERS, CA 93271-9651



Weddings in Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks

A **Special Use Permit** is required for **any** wedding held at any location within Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks. The permit application fee is \$50 and is non-refundable. The permit fee is an additional charge of \$125. Weddings may be scheduled up to one year in advance. Please read the attached information and complete the attached wedding permit information form, include your telephone number, address, e:mail address, number of people, date, time, and exact location. Also include any special needs of the wedding party (i.e. handicapped access, elderly guests, etc.)

The permit fees are **made payable to:**
Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks
and should be sent to:
Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks
Attn: Special Use Permits
47050 Generals Highway
Three Rivers, CA 93271-9700

The parks cannot accept credit card payment for permits. Personal checks, money orders or cashier's checks are accepted for application and permit fees. The approved permit must be in your possession at the time of the wedding.

Entrance fees into the park are **NOT WAIVED** for either wedding participants or guests.

National Park Service Weddings/Receptions

A visit to the park is highly recommended prior to finalizing your plans in order to decide on a site for your wedding. Attached is a list of possible sites along with group size restrictions. For additional questions contact the park office at (559) 565-3101.

The wedding permit does not allow your ceremony to restrict other park visitor's from your chosen location nor does it guarantee you a specific site. It is recommended that you avoid sites that attract a large number of visitors, or schedule your ceremony for early or late in the day. By doing so, your wedding will have more privacy. Maximum time allowed for outdoor events is three hours. Wedding permits will not be issued for heavy use periods— Memorial Day weekend, Fourth of July, and Labor Day weekend.

Receptions may be held only in concessioner facilities or private property. Kings Canyon Park Services Company have facilities in Grant Grove and Cedar Grove. Delaware North Companies Parks & Resorts at Sequoia have facilities in Lodgepole (summer only) and Wuksachi. The facilities include food service, lodging and gift shops as well as providing catering services for the reception. To contact Kings Canyon Park Services Company call Judy Morris (559) 452-1000 or visit their website at www.sequoia-kingscanyon.com. For Delaware North Companies Parks and Resorts at Sequoia contact the Special Functions department at (801) 559-5050 or visit their website at www.visitsequoia.com. Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks have a website that may contain additional information, www.nps.gov/seki/index.htm.

Campgrounds are available in Lodgepole, Dorst, Grant Grove, Cedar Grove, as well as other sites throughout Sequoia National Forest.

You will need to provide your own officiant for your ceremony. Refer to <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/certlic/birthdeathmar/pages/marriagelicenseinformation.aspx> for information on marriage laws in California.

Transportation

- All vehicles, including motorcycles, must be parked in designated areas only; no off-road traffic is permitted. Parking is limited in most areas so it is recommended that all wedding participants and guests carpool to site.
- Special conveyances, including but not limited to horse drawn carriages and hot air balloons, are prohibited.
- Any activity not allowed to the general public will not be allowed to a wedding party.

Conditions of Special Use Permit

1. The Permittee shall exercise this privilege subject to the supervision of the Superintendent, Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, and shall comply with all applicable laws and regulations of the area.
2. **Damages:** The Permittee shall pay the United States for any damage resulting from this use which would not reasonably be inherent in the use which the Permittee is authorized to make of the land described in this permit.
3. **Assignment:** This permit may not be transferred or assigned, and pursuant to the National Parks and Recreation Act of 1978 (Public Law 95-625), it is issued only to those persons who were Permittee's of record on the date of said Act.
4. **Revocation:** This permit may be terminated upon breach of any of the conditions herein or at the discretion of the Superintendent.
5. The Permittee is prohibited from giving false information; to do so will be considered a breach of conditions and be grounds for revocation (re: 36 CFR 2.32(4)).
6. Permittee will comply with applicable public health and sanitation standards and codes.
7. This special use permit for a wedding does not allow the ceremony to restrict other park visitors from any location.
8. The variety of ecological sites located within the Park boundaries are all important components of the Park's renowned resources as well as important habitats for a host of plants and animals. Some of these areas, such as The General Sherman Tree, The General Grant Tree, Moro Rock and Crystal Cave, attract a great deal of visitor use, which results in considerable environmental impact. To minimize such impacts and to maintain the scenic and ecological integrity of these sites, no special activities such as weddings, formal meetings or parties are permitted at these sites.
9. Weddings are not allowed around the bases of Sequoia trees.
10. For the purposes of this agreement the District Ranger within Kings Canyon National Park shall represent the National Park Service. He or she can be contacted at (559) 565-4330. If the wedding takes place in Sequoia National Park, the Sequoia District Ranger can be reached at (559) 565-3710.
11. Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Park Rangers strictly enforce all laws relating to excessive drinking. The Permittee and guests must comply with all applicable federal, state and county regulations.
12. The Code of Federal Regulations (CFR-36, 2.12) addresses audio disturbances and prohibits the following: radio, television sets, tape deck or musical instruments, in a manner that exceeds a noise level of 60 decibels measured on the A weighted scale at 50 feet. No amplified music or public address systems are allowed.
13. The use of balloons or any other artificial decorations that would distract from the public enjoyment of the area or that threaten the resources are prohibited. No event or directional signs are allowed.

14. The release of butterflies is prohibited.
15. Birdseed or rice may not be thrown within the Park, as this provides an unnatural food source for park wildlife.
16. All bouquets, boutonnieres or any other flowers – cut or live – brought into the parks must either leave the park with the wedding party or may be disposed of in any locked park trash receptacle.
17. Receptions may be held only in concessioner facilities or on private property. Picnic areas may not be reserved and are only available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Permittee is responsible for the clean up of all its trash.
18. Vehicles must be parked in designated areas only; travel off of established roads is not allowed.
19. Pets are prohibited except in campgrounds and must be leashed at all times.
20. Folding chairs will only be approved on a case by case basis.
21. Permittee(s) and guests coming to the Parks for the wedding must pay the usual entrance fee of **\$20.00 per vehicle**. All National Park passes will be accepted.